



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/286,480	04/05/1999	YOSUKE SUZUKI	450100-4842	5049

20999 7590 05/18/2004
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG
745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL.
NEW YORK, NY 10151

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LE V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2174

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2004

30

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SL

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/286,480

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI ET AL.

Examiner

Le Nguyen

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment C, filed 2/6/04.
2. Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6 and 10 are independent claims; and, claims 1-3, 6 and 10 have been amended.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. Claims 1 – 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Using Netscape 2* by Mark R. Brown (c) 1995 in view of Klemets (US 6,449,653), and further in view of Kelly et al. ("Kelly").

Claim 1 is rejected. The Applicant cites, "a character-information detecting means for detecting character information recorded in an information control area of said recording medium and reproduced by said playback means" in claim 1. *Using Netscape 2* teaches storing audio files that can be reproduced by a play back means (p. 10). The technology taught by Netscape is a type of detecting means for detecting character information recorded in an information control area of said recording medium and reproduced by said playback means. The web address, written in character form, is recorded in an information control area of a recording medium. This memory area on which this web address is stored is a recording medium. The web page, which it addresses, is a playback means associated with the address. Netscape suggests, teaches, or discloses, "a character-information detecting means for detecting character

information recorded in an information control area of said recording medium and reproduced by said playback means” as cited by the Applicant. Netscape teaches a character-string in the form of character-string searching means for searching character information detected by said character-information detecting means for a string of characters representing address information. The web address box taught by Netscape demonstrates character string searching (*Using Netscape 2*, p. 438, fig. 17.3). The box also detects addresses (*Using Netscape 2*, p. 438, fig. 17.3). If the user enters a string that does not represent a valid address, an error would be displayed on the computer display. *Using Netscape 2* teaches, “an address-information generating means for generating address information means,” as cited by claim 1 (*Using Netscape 2*, p. 438, fig. 17.3). The web page demonstrates an address-information generating means for generating address information. Once the address is entered into the address input box, a searching means is activated. *Using Netscape 2* teaches “an apparatus for processing a playback signal,” as cited by claim 1 (*Using Netscape 2*, p. 438, fig. 17.3). The method for downloading audio data (p. 438) requires a software and hardware forming apparatus that handles some type of playback signal being disseminated from readable medium. *Using Netscape 2* suggests or teaches providing play back hardware (p. 438). Information including programs and character information associated with said programs is the text button for accessing texts associated with audio data. The information associated with this audio source can be considered originating from a “remote source”. Since the claim language fails to define the remoteness of the said “remote source”, this said “remote source” could be any subcomponent within the system distinct from the actual input or output device accessible to the user. Further, a reference to the Internet inherently teaches accessing a remote data source.

Using Netscape 2 teaches storing information for a string of characters representing address information representing either a URL used to obtain program information associated with said programs or an electronic mail address (p. 438, fig. 17.3). When the user selects the URL, a search of the Internet takes place that involves the matching of the character data listed with character based URLs available on the Internet.

Netscape fails to teach reproducing information on a rotatable recording medium accessible by browser. Klemets teaches reproducing information on a rotatable recording medium accessible by browser (col. 5, lines 4 – 15). The disk drive taught by Klemets is a rotatable recording medium accessible by a browser. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the rotatable, recordable medium taught by Klemets with the web browser taught by Netscape. Doing so enables the user to store and retrieve video data.

However, the combined teachings of Klemets and *Using Netscape 2* still does not explicitly disclose an apparatus for processing a playback signal comprising means for displaying the URL or electronic mail address (email) and means for communicating with the URL or electronic mail address. Kelly teaches an apparatus for processing a playback signal comprising means for displaying the URL and means for communicating with the URL (col. 2, lines 54-58; figs. 6-8 and col. 3, lines 28-36; col. 7, lines 46-65; col. 9, lines 5-11 and lines 19-32; col. 10, lines 30-62; col. 12, lines 7-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Kelly's apparatus for processing a playback signal comprising means for displaying the URL and means for communicating with the URL to Klemets and *Using Netscape 2's* apparatus for processing a playback signal comprising means

for searching address information representing the URL used to obtain information associated with the programs and the electronic mail address (email) so that users may view the result of the search.

Claim 2 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* teaches an address box for displaying a human readable address (p. 162, fig. 7.14). This address is “a display means [for displaying] said address information in a format different from formats of other character information” as cited by the Applicant. *Using Netscape 2* demonstrates the display of “a display means [for displaying] said address information in a format different from formats of other character information” as cited by the Applicant (p. 162, fig. 7.14). The character-based information located outside the address box is associated with the web page. The use of various fonts, which differ from the web address, demonstrates the use of different types of formats for displaying character information.

Claim 3 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* teaches the display of a net address (p. 438, fig. 17.3). *Using Netscape 2* inherently suggest, teach, or disclose an apparatus wherein said “display control means displays information indicating whether or not character information recorded in said recording medium includes address information” as cited by the Applicant. The displayed address in the said figure is recorded on a recording medium. Main memory is a type of recording medium.

Using Netscape 2 does suggest the need for providing an error message when the user enters a false address by providing an input line for entering address data. The *Using Netscape 2* text fails to teach providing an error message when a user attempts to enter a false address. The Examiner takes OFFICIAL NOTICE that computer systems output an error message when the

user enters false data such as false addresses. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine providing an error message when a user enters false information such as a false address with the browser taught by *Using Netscape 2*. Doing so prevents computer crashing when erroneous data is entered into a computer system while informing the user that input data fails to match the selectable possibilities on a network, database, or other computer system.

Claim 4 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* teaches the display of various buttons that include icons (p. 151, fig. 7.3). The use of these icons at least suggest, teach, or disclose a “display means by said display control means to indicate whether or not character information recorded in said recording medium includes address information is an icon” as cited by the Applicant in claim 4. These icons include alphanumeric characters. Therefore they are considered address information in the form of an icon.

Claim 5 is rejected. The icons taught by *Using Netscape 2* are used for opening other web pages. These web pages have their own code, which equates as a software program. Further, the web address box (fig. 7.3) is used for activating an operation for activating various web addresses. These addresses are a means for “activating other software associated with said address information displayed on said display means,” as cited by the Applicant in claim 5.

Claim 6 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* and Klemets teach the rationale for a playback signal in rejected claim 1. The method for processing address data taught by *Using Netscape 2* (p. 151, fig. 7.3) requires the use of software. All search software requires the “memory means for storing character information reproduced from a recording medium” as cited by the Applicant in claim 6. The web addresses taught by *Using Netscape 2* (p. 151, fig. 7.3) uses a search means

Art Unit: 2174

for searching said character information stored in said memory means for a string of characters representing address information . This operation takes place during every Internet search and during every request for a web page from the Internet. *Using Netscape 2* teaches the rationale for displaying a “control means for displaying information indicating whether or not said address information is included in said character information in accordance with a search result output by said search means on a display means along with said character information,” as cited by the applicant in claim 6 in rejected claim 1. However, the combined teachings of Klemets and *Using Netscape 2* still does not explicitly disclose an apparatus for processing a playback signal comprising means for displaying the URL or electronic mail address (email) and means for communicating with the URL or electronic mail address. Kelly teaches an apparatus for processing a playback signal comprising means for displaying the URL and means for communicating with the URL (col. 2, lines 54-58; figs. 6-8 and col. 3, lines 28-36; col. 7, lines 46-65; col. 9, lines 5-11 and lines 19-32; col. 10, lines 30-62; col. 12, lines 7-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Kelly’s apparatus for processing a playback signal comprising means for displaying the URL and means for communicating with the URL to Klemets and *Using Netscape 2*’s apparatus for processing a playback signal comprising means for searching address information representing the URL used to obtain information associated with the programs and the electronic mail address (email) so that users may view the result of the search.

Claim 7 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* and Klemets teach the rationale of claim 7 in rejected claim 4.

Claim 8 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* and Klemets teach the rationale of claim 8 in rejected claim 5.

Claim 9 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* and Klemets teach the rationale of claim 9 in rejected claim 1.

Claim 10 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2*, Klemets and Kelly teach the rationale of claim 10 in rejected claim 6.

Claim 11 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* and Klemets teach the rationale of claim 11 in rejected claim 4.

Claim 12 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* and Klemets teach a method wherein said address information is included in said character information, said address information is displayed on said display means along with said character information in a format different from a format of said character information (p. 151, fig. 7.3).

Claim 13 is rejected. *Using Netscape 2* and Klemets teach having a step of activating predetermined application software in accordance with an input operation carried out for said information displayed on said display means to indicate whether or not said address information is included in said character information (p. 151, fig. 7.3).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Inquires

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Lê whose telephone number is (703) 305-7601. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid, can be reached on (703) 308-0640.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 872-9306 [Official Communication]

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

LVN
Patent Examiner
May 6, 2004

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100